



JOBS FOR MONTANA'S GRADUATES

*A Department of Labor
and Industry Program*

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JMG News

EDUCATION FOR LIFE!

MARCH 2011

Scholarship Opportunities Expanded for JMG Seniors

Due to the generosity of the State Workforce Investment Board (SWIB) and the Student Assistance Foundation (SAF), JMG is able to offer 8 scholarships to JMG seniors to attend post-secondary training in 2011-12. Students may apply by filling out the application which requires an essay, two recommendation letters, and the student's high school transcript. Those selected to receive funding will have demonstrated evidence of school and/or work initiative, community involvement and goal accomplishment. Three top scorers will receive \$1000 scholarships and the next five top scores will receive \$500; all monies will be forwarded straight to the post-secondary training site of the student's choice. **Applications are due April 1, 2011**, so please tell your seniors about this great opportunity and see the scholarship application which has been emailed for more details!

Specialists Receive Kudos at JMG Awards Event

JMG Specialists do an incredible job and make a difference in the lives of their students! This was the resounding message at the JMG Awards Recognition event held in Helena on February 9, 2011. Elected officials including Lt. Governor Bohlinger, Attorney General Bullock, Secretary of State Linda McCulloch, and State Superintendent Denise Juneau attended the reception to congratulate the JMG program and give awards to

JMG specialists. President and CEO of Jobs for America's Graduates, Ken Smith, flew out from Washington DC to present the award for being the number one JAG program in the country to Keith Kelly, the Commissioner of the Department of Labor and Industry.

Highlights of the reception included a reading by Helena PAL JesseLynn Drake of her essay which won her one of five trips to Washington DC to attend the National Student Leadership Conference back in November and a poster made by Summer Diegel and Tanner Routzhan from CR Anderson Middle School which reflected their JMG experience. Stan Barr and Joe Barbero of Billings Career Center, Mary Machart from Culbertson Schools, and Kelly Chapman from the Student Assistance Foundation were presented with awards for high performing organizations. JMG Specialists receiving the outstanding Career Specialist award included Todd Bishop from Dutton/Brady High School and Jacquie Venard from Powell County High School in Deer Lodge; Darlene Kolczak from Malta High School was also named for this award but couldn't make it due to weather.

Nine schools had representatives present to receive their awards for achieving "5 for 5" performance standards: Billings Career Center, Cascade High School, Dawson County High School, Havre High School, Havre SUNS, Helena High School, North Star High School, Roberts High School, Scobey High School, Whitefish Independent High School, and Whitehall High School. Other schools not present but who also earned this award include Bridger High School, Butte High School, Columbia Falls High School, Malta High School, Nashua High School, and Plains High School.

For pictures from the event, please look at page three of this newsletter. Congratulations to all JMG Specialists for the wonderful work you do and to the administrations that support this award-winning program!

JMG CAREER DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

MAY 3-4, 2011

BILLINGS CONVENTION CENTER – BILLINGS, MT

Registration materials will be sent in early March.

Competitive events: Remember, students may only compete in one on-site event. Please refer to your latest competitive events manual issued in the fall for details and direct any questions to Jenny Veltri.

Competitive Event Judges: Know someone who would be interested in judging a competitive event? If so, email their contact info to Jenny Veltri and she will invite them to volunteer!

DUE APRIL 1st

***Registration forms**

***Competitive event entries**

***Scholarship applications**

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN BILLINGS!

Spring monitoring visits are coming in late March/early April. Program managers will be sending out their schedules shortly; please try to accommodate when you can, as we want to give each school the time it deserves. We look forward to seeing you out on the road and hearing about the great things your JMG program is doing!

You Could Attend JAG NTS in New Orleans, July 2011!

What: JAG National Training Seminar (NTS)

When: July 11-16, 2011

Where: New Orleans

Each year Jobs for America's Graduates organizes a training seminar aimed at those working in JAG organizations. The seminar lasts a week and includes in-depth education on a JAG program area (specialist training for high school, middle school, or alternative school), and multiple workshops on various JAG programs, activities, legislation, database, etc. It is a great opportunity to learn new teaching strategies and meet other specialists from across the country who are also teaching JAG competencies! Thanks to money allocated by the State Workforce Investment Board, this year we will be able to fund this seminar for three career specialists including airfare, hotel, and all seminar costs.

If you are interested in attending, send an email to Drea Brown at dbrown@mt.gov. We are happy to be able to offer this opportunity and can't wait to send specialists to the Big Easy!

DATE REMINDERS:

- **March 13-16:** JAG Accreditation Committee visiting Montana
- **March 25:** Submit photos/articles for May newsletter
- **April 1:** Deadline to submit
 - CDC registration
 - JMG scholarship applications
- **May 3-4:** Career Development Conference in Billings, MT
- **May 20:** eNDMS database entry
 - 2010 Senior follow-up
 - 2010 8th grade follow-up
 - Model Services
 - School/Job placement
 - 2011 Graduation dates
 - 2011 End of year status
- **July 11-16:** JAG NTS in New Orleans, LA
- **Late Summer 2011:** JMG Specialist Training

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JMG Awards Event in Pictures



JMG Awards Event in (More) Pictures

